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Letter dated 25 February 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of the statement made by Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister, concerning Security Council resolution 687 (1991) and, in particular, implementation of paragraphs 14 and 22. An impartial evaluation of the obligations fulfilled by Iraq pursuant to this resolution would entail the immediate implementation of those two paragraphs.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammed **Al-Douri**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 25 February 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Text of the statement made by Mr. Tariq Aziz, Deputy Prime Minister, on 25 February 2001

World public opinion and the Security Council must beware of the declarations made by the United States and the United Kingdom concerning the so-called new ways of applying the sanctions on Iraq. The basic resolution, adopted by the Security Council in April 1991, is 687 (1991). The resolution contains two paragraphs of fundamental importance. The first of these is paragraph 14, which refers to the goal of establishing in the Middle East a zone free from weapons of mass destruction. The second is paragraph 22, which provides for the lifting of the economic sanctions imposed on Iraq. An impartial evaluation of the obligations fulfilled by Iraq pursuant to this resolution would entail the immediate implementation of those two paragraphs.

The United States and the United Kingdom are using false pretences in an attempt to rewrite resolution 687 (1991), erase those two paragraphs and shirk the responsibilities they entail, with a view to distracting attention from the capabilities of the Zionist entity with regard to nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and avoiding having to completely lift the embargo.

While bringing this to the attention of the Security Council and world public opinion, Iraq will continue to expose these suspicious attempts. It will have no dealings with any formula that does not include the complete lifting of the embargo and the application of the provisions of paragraph 14 to all countries in the region and, in particular, the Zionist entity.